[a bridge] an adapter unit connected to the distribution system and to the [asymmetric star wiring home network bus] existing asymmetric internal telephone wiring; and

[a converter] one or more converters connected to the existing asymmetric [star wiring home network bus] internal telephone wiring, each converter [and] having an outlet for connecting to either a conventional single media [and] or a multimedia electronic [devices] device;

wherein [the bridge adapter unit translates between the public network protocol and a Local Area Network (LAN) protocol using hi-frequency, modulated network signals on the asymmetric star wiring home network bus, and to manage the asymmetric star wiring home network bus as a non-isochronous type bus, and the converter converts the hi-frequency, modulated network signals on the asymmetric star wiring home network bus to a form required by one of the single media and multimedia electronic devices] the bridge unit drives the existing asymmetric internal telephone wiring according to a Local Area Network (LAN) protocol, translating the public network protocol signals to the LAN protocol by modulating the LAN signals onto the existing asymmetric internal telephone wiring, and each converter converts the modulated LAN signals on the existing asymmetric internal telephone wiring to a form required by the connected single media or multimedia device.

2. (Unchanged) The multimedia data distribution system of claim 1 wherein the single and multimedia electronic devices include telephones, personal computers, fax machines, and televisions running through set top boxes.

3. (Twice Amended) A home network system, comprising:

[a bridge] an adapter unit having an inlet port for public network protocol signals and connected to an existing asymmetric [star wiring home network bus] internal telephone wiring of a home or business; and

a converter connected to the existing asymmetric [star wiring home network bus] internal telephone wiring, the converter [and] having an outlet adapted for connecting to either a conventional single media [and] or a multimedia electronic [devices] device;

wherein the [bridge] adapter unit translates between a public network data protocol at the inlet port and a Local Area Network (LAN) data protocol using hi-frequency, modulated network signals on the existing asymmetric [star wiring home network bus] internal telephone wiring, and [to manage] manages the existing asymmetric [star wiring home network bus] internal telephone wiring as a non-isochronous type bus, and the converter converts signals on the existing asymmetric [star wiring home network bus] internal telephone wiring to a form required by one of the single media and multimedia electronic devices.

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4. (Unchanged) The home network system of claim [1] 3 wherein the single and multimedia electronic devices include telephones, personal computers, fax machines, and televisions running through set top boxes.

Please add claims 5-12 for examination as follows:

5. A home network system, comprising:

an intelligent adapter unit having an inlet port for public network protocol signals and connected to an existing asymmetric internal telephone wiring of a home or business; and

one or more converters connected to the existing asymmetric

internal telephone wiring, each converter having an outlet adapted for connecting to either a conventional single media or a multimedia electronic device;

wherein the adapter unit manages the existing asymmetric internal telephone wiring as a local area network (LAN) using hi-frequency, modulated network signals, and manages addresses for the single and multimedia devices, and wherein the home network system may be reconfigured and reprogrammed from network level.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein a local harddisk is used for storing both data and parameters of the LAN.

7. A method for managing a multimedia home network, comprising steps of;

(a) delivering public network protocol signals to the level of a home or business;

(b) imposing a configurable bridge unit at the home or business between the public network and an internal network of the home or business, the bridge unit transferring data between the public and internal networks;

(c) connecting addressable clients to the internal network;

(d) sending data from the public network to the bridge unit; and

(e) using at least a portion of the data to configure addresses for the clients.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein, in step (b), the bridge unit comprises internal mass storage, and at least some of the data sent in step (d) is stored in the internal mass storage.